



Biotechnology And Life Sciences Innovative Academy
Early College High School At LBJ (BLSIA)

P-TECH Designation Application

2018-2019

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Background

District Affiliation

UNITED ISD

DC #: 240903

Region: 01

Mailing Address (Line 1): 201 LINDENWOOD DR

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: LAREDO, TX 78045

School Affiliation

LYNDON B JOHNSON

CDC #: 240-903-009

Region:

Mailing Address (Line 1): 5626 CIELITO LINDO BLVD

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: LAREDO, TX 78046

Academy Information

P-TECH Academy Name:

Biotechnology And Life Sciences Innovative Academy Early College High School At LBJ (BLSIA)

Are you seeking designation for P-TECH, ICIA, or both?

ICIA

What grade level range will your academy serve in the 2019-2020 school year?

9-10

If you do not currently serve a full cohort of students, will you scale up the program by adding grade levels over subsequent years?

Yes

Contacts

Superintendent

Job Title: Superintendent
Full Name: Mr. Roberto J. Santos
Email: rsantos@uisd.net
Phone Number: 956-473-6219

Applicant

Job Title: Director Grants Administration
Full Name: Dr. Edith Landeck
Email: elandeck@uisd.net
Phone Number: 956-473-6311

IHE Liaison

Affiliation: Laredo Community College
Job Title: Senior Director Admissions & Recruiting
Full Name: Mr. Albert Hernandez
Email: albert.hernandez@laredo.edu
Phone Number: 956-764-5908

Business Partner

Affiliation: South Laredo Family Clinic PA
Job Title: Physician/Owner
Full Name: Dr. Mateo Reyes
Email: drreyes@slfcmd.com
Phone Number: 956-722-5007

Narratives

Campus Website

Provide a link to your campus's website.

http://lbj.unitedisd.org/pages/Lyndon_B_Johnson_High_School/Biotechnology_and_Life_Science

Model Implementation

Which P-TECH model does the district intend to implement at this time? Within these models, there are variations. For this purpose campus is defined as a CDC number not a physical location.

School Within a School

Describe how the school currently meets criteria of open enrollment.

In both of its early college high schools United ISD has been employing a performance-blind, open-ended lottery system to select students to be included in the ECHS cohorts. UISD will continue to employ this open enrollment system for the Biotechnology and Life Sciences Innovative Academy Early College High School at LBJ (BLSIA) since this is considered to be the "best practice" for selecting students.

Describe how the school's strategies and activities are of sufficient quality and scope to ensure equitable access and participation among program participants.

Using the lottery system to select students for the ECHS cohorts ensures that any interested student has the opportunity to apply, including students who are at risk of dropping out of school (at-risk, economically disadvantaged, English language learners, and first-generation college goers) or students who wish to accelerate completion of the high school program. The BLSIA program has been intentionally designed to increase the number of students who participate in CTE and who achieve industry recognized certification by offering a high interest program that will attract students by the promise of increased employability and a strong foundation for further study. All BLSIA students actively participate in this program which incorporates high quality, in-depth strategies and activities that engage highly motivated students in real-world, practical courses of study at the college level. This program has proven successful in keeping students in school while preparing them for earning a living with a certificate awarded at graduation, as well as accumulating college credit at no cost while still in high school.

Institution of Higher Education

Describe the current campus or district partnership with an institution of higher education (IHE) and address how this partnership addresses all statutory requirements such as curriculum alignment, instructional materials, instructional calendar, etc.

The BLSIA's foundation is set in an articulation agreement with Laredo Community College to provide participating students access to postsecondary educational and training opportunities at a college, university, or technical school. Curriculum alignment is ensured through ongoing coordination between the school district and IHE through crossmatching class requirements. The IHE provides the class syllabus and designates the instructional materials which are then provided to students by the school district at no cost. The instructional calendar for the high school portion of the BLSIA is based on the School District calendar and complies with all related TEA regulations for school attendance. The School District adjusts its schedule if necessary to enable BLSIA students to enroll in and attend the college-level courses provided by the College. The School District and College coordinate the testing requirements of the students to ensure students may take all required State examinations without penalty. The ECHS calendar may vary from that of the School District in order to best fit the needs of students and reasonably interrelate with the College's academic calendar.

Provide a link for this campus's agreement with its IHE partner.

http://lbj.unitedisd.org/files/_oWJnp_/0b5da45f3aaeb71a3745a49013852ec4/MOU.pdf

Describe the program(s) of study offered to students through this P-TECH/ICIA (or like) program. Include the sequence of courses that lead to a credential and/or associate degree.

The United Independent School District's BLSIA offers a program of study for the Nursing Assistant certificate that spans the Health Science Technology courses normally offered as high school electives and postsecondary education through the four-year plan that begins in the 9th grade and culminates in an Associates of Applied Science degree. The Associates of Applied Science degree incorporates the 40 common core curriculum that transfers to any public post-secondary institution in the state. It is the goal of the BLSIA that students graduate high school with an Associates degree, and while the graduates are working they may pursue further study and post-secondary degrees. United ISD's BLSIA focuses on the high demand occupation of Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA). The program of study leading to a CNA is an Associates of Applied Science in the Nurse Assistant program. Course sequence is as follows: The 9th grade coursework for 2017-2018: English I; Algebra I/Geometry; Biology; World Geography; Spanish I; Elec: Principals of Health Science; Extra Curricular Electives; and dual credit courses taught by LCC credentialed adjunct faculty: Business Information Mgt 1/Intro to Computing COSC 1301; Fine Arts/Art Appreciation ARTS 1301.b

The 10th grade coursework for 2018-19: English II; Geometry/Algebra II; Chemistry; Spanish II; Extracurricular Electives; and dual credit courses taught by LCC credentialed adjunct faculty: Social Studies Advanced/US History 1 HIST 1301; Government/American Natl Govt GOVT 2305; Medical Terminology MDCA 1313; Economics/Elective - Lifespan Growth & Development PSYC 2314.

The 11th grade coursework for 2019-2020: Algebra I/Pre-Calculus; Physics; Extracurricular Elective; and dual credit courses taught by LCC credentialed adjunct faculty: English III Composition ENGL1301; US History HIST 1302; English III Composition ENGL 1302; Professional Communications/Health; Elective BCIS 1305 Business Computer Applications; Elective - Nurse Aide & Body Systems NURA 1401 & NURA 1407.

The 12th grade coursework for 2020-2021: Extracurricular Electives; and dual credit courses taught by LCC credentialed adjunct faculty: English IV and dual credit courses taught by LCC credentialed adjunct faculty: English IV/American Literature ENGL 2328; 4th Math/College Algebra MATH 1314; Advanced Science Course Biology for Science Majors¹/lab BIOL1306/1106; Advanced Science Course Anatomy & Physiology I BIOL 2301/210; and Elective NURA1460, ECRD 1111.

This program articulates the 40 common core hours that will transfer into any public post-secondary education institution and the student's accrued credits count toward a baccalaureate degree.

Does the IHE partner currently have an articulation agreement with a four-year IHE detailing how a student's associate degree and accrued credits could lead to a baccalaureate degree?

No

Describe how this school provides its students with flexible class scheduling and academic mentoring.

The BLSIA students are in their first year of the program and 100% on track to complete their coursework; nonetheless, a contingency plan is in place to provide flexible scheduling on a per student, as needed basis. The contingency plan includes May-mester, summer, evening, or weekend classes to be provided for students should the need arise. Academic mentoring is built into our ICIA program as the classroom teacher provides such mentoring on the days that the class does not meet: on a Monday-Friday schedule, classes may be held on Monday-Wednesday-Friday with mentoring taking place on non-class days (Tuesday and Thursday). This scheduling has been very effective in meeting student needs.

Certificates

Identify all associate degrees offered to students.

Degree	Description
Associates of Applied Science	Biology and Life Sciences studies specialized in Nursing Assistant coursework

Identify all credentials offered to students.

Credential	Description
Certified Nursing Assistant	Articulated Health Science Technology courses

Industry/Business Partner

List up-to five key business partners for this campus that support students' program of study.

South Laredo Family Clinic, P.A.

Provide a link for this campus's agreement with its business/industry partner(s).

http://lbj.unitedisd.org/files/_oWDlk_/6a02a7db7fdea6513745a49013852ec4/Industry_Partnership_Letters.pdf

List up-to five key business partners for this campus that support students' program of study.

Area Health Education Center (AHEC)

Prestige EMS

Doctors Hospital

Si Texas, Juntos for Better Health Traveling Clinic

City of Laredo Health Department

Describe how business/industry partners currently support work-based and contextual learning for 9th grade students (i.e. through internships, externships, workforce training, etc).

Health facilities tours

In-kind donations of equipment

Demonstrations of equipment and operations of such in tours

Participation in providing basic health screenings

Presentations to students

Describe how business/industry partners support or will support work-based and contextual learning for 10th grade students.

Health facilities tours

In-kind donations of equipment

Demonstrations of equipment and operations of such in tours

Participation in providing basic health screenings

Presentations to students

Describe how business/industry partners currently support or will support work-based and contextual learning for 11th grade students.

Health facilities tours

In-kind donations of equipment

Demonstrations of equipment and operations of such in tours

Participation in providing basic health screenings

Presentations to students

Providing externships/internships

Describe how business/industry partners currently support or will support work-based and contextual learning for 12th grade students.

Health facilities tours

In-kind donations of equipment

Demonstrations of equipment and operations of such in tours

Participation in providing basic health screenings

Presentations to students

Providing externships/internships

Does AT LEAST one of the school's current business/industry partnerships emphasize that students completing the P-TECH/ICIA program and otherwise meet hiring requirements have priority interviewing with the applicable employer?

Yes

Please describe how you currently identify needs, create action plans, and engage in a process of continuous improvement for this P-TECH/ICIA (or like) program.

The BLSIA follows a Theory of Change model: student, teacher, parent, and business/industry partner all provide input into the program both in the planning stages and during the program operation. Continuous feedback provides rapid problem identification/solution and lessons learned are then integrated into the program functioning in real time. Adjustments or changes are made as needed, and all information is shared in the Early College High School Planning Committee meetings as needed, usually at a rate of twice a month. There is a Leadership Team meeting in summer where a review of the past year occurs and planning for the coming year takes place.

Describe how the Academy will recruit, support, and retain highly qualified teachers.

BLSIA teachers are selected based on credentials and goodness-of-fit with the program needs. Teacher positions for the BLSIA follow the same process as for the district at large, with the most highly qualified candidates selected to teach in the BLSIA. The IHE partner approves these teacher candidates and approves their credentials. These BLSIA teachers receive a stipend \$500 per section for these classes in addition to the \$3,500 stipend they receive for teaching at this campus. These stipends provide an incentive for teacher retention.

BLSIA teachers are supported through professional development with the campus, district, and IHE.

Leadership Team

Identify the job titles who currently serve on this school's leadership team and their roles. Describe how the current leadership team reviews agreements, monitors progress, and reviews data to problem solve and course correct.

The campus principal, Dean of the Early College High School, and coordinator of the BLSIA are the on-site leadership team. This on-site leadership team is supported by the BLSIA counselor, Director of Career and Technology, and Executive Director of Federal Programs to constitute the school leadership team. The BLSIA Coordinator is responsible for the day to day operations, and communicates with the principal and dean. The BLSIA Counselor is responsible for all items related to student scheduling.

The leadership team reviews agreements, monitors progress (both student progress and program milestones) and reviews data to problem solve and course correct in a real-time, ongoing basis.

List the dates of all leadership meetings that have been held throughout the academic year.

The dates of all leadership meetings are:

2017: 9/5, 9/9, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/30, 11/13.

2018: 1/17, 1/23, 2/27, 3/22, 4/17, 5/22.

Provide a link to where the leadership team meeting documents (agendas, minutes, etc.) are posted for the school district.

http://lbj.unitedisd.org/files/_oWDkW_/1f5f1033aa8b3c4a3745a49013852ec4/Sign_Ins_and_Agendas_as_of_5.22.16.pdf

TSI Testing

Describe your current process for TSI testing students: how often are students tested, where they test, and how the data is used to benefit students.

Students enroll in a college preparation boot camp that includes TSI Testing preparations as students are entering the program. Students are TSI tested the first time in fall of their freshman year, and students who do not pass are remediated. Diagnostic post-test data is reviewed and this data guides the student's further preparation using Edmentum software to remediate their weaknesses. Students are then tested at least once a month at the high school or IHE campus until they are successful in meeting scoring requirements.

Products

Provide a link to the final, signed, and executed MOU.

Provide a link to the Program of Study.

http://lbj.unitedisd.org/files/_oWDh7_/489a98d1debb0e2e3745a49013852ec4/Biotechnology_and_Life_Sciences_Innovative_Academy_-_60_Hour_Crosswalk.pdf